

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE
GARY COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF
GARY, INDIANA**

**MINUTES OF
NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN
Councilman 1st District, Common Council President

THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON
Councilman 2nd District

THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN
Councilwoman 3rd District

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS
Councilwoman 4th District, Common Council Vice-President

THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL
Councilwoman 5th District

THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS
Councilman 6th District

THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
Councilman-At-Large, Parliamentarian

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL BROWN
Councilman-At-Large,

THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY
Councilman-At-Large

**THE HONORABLE JEROME PRINCE, MAYOR, CITY OF GARY
THE HONORABLE SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK**

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Common Council of the City of Gary, Lake County, Indiana met in Regular Session pursuant to the Laws and Rules of the Common Council of the City of Gary, Indiana, via zoom video conference on the **16th Day of November, 2021** at **6:00 pm** with the Honorable William Godwin presiding and the following members present/absent:

PRESENT

THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL BROWN
THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL
THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN
THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY
THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON
THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS

ABSENT

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS

The meeting was opened at 6:10 pm with a moment of prayer by Councilman Brewer, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair asked for Roll Call.

Roll call showed 8 present 1 absent (Councilwoman Adkins). The Chair declared this duly a quorum in order to conduct business in the City of Gary.

The Chair asked for reading of the minutes.

The Chair stated that the minutes of November 2, 2021 will be available for the next scheduled Council meeting of December 7, 2021.

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

C.P.O. 2021-89

N ORDINANCE APPROVING PAYMENT TO KEITH STONE FOR MORE THAN ONE POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2021-90

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE

C.P.R. 2021-15

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF DIANNE DURHAM. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Councilman Cozey Weatherspoon, 2nd District, Councilman Dwight Williams, 6th District

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Councilwoman Brown, Chairwoman Human Resource & Personnel Committee has:

C.P.O. 2021-89

N ORDINANCE APPROVING PAYMENT TO KEITH STONE FOR MORE THAN ONE POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Brewer approved C.P.O. 2021-89 to be reported out of committee.**

Councilwoman Caldwell, Acting Chairwoman Ways/Means Committee has:

C.P.O. 2021-90

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown approved C.P.O. 2021-90 to be reported out of committee.**

Councilman Williams, Chairman Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee has:

C.P.R. 2021-15

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF DIANNE DURHAM. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Councilman Cozey Weatherspoon, 2nd District, Councilman Dwight Williams, 6th District **before it. For the record Councilman Williams and Councilman Brown approved C.P.R. 2021-15 to be reported out of committee.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

HUMAN RESOURCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Councilwoman Brown reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-89.**

WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE:

Councilwoman Caldwell reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-90.**

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE:

Councilman Williams reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.R. 2021-15.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jim Nowaki
Dorreen Carey
Kay Nelson
Jennie Rudderhan
Lin Kaatz Chary
Pauline Tatum

Councilman Lay, President Godwin and Councilman Brewer spoke in regards to the time allotted for public comments.

COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON THIRD AND/OR FINAL READING:

President Godwin requested that **C.P.R. 2021-13** be read first and there was no objection.

C.P.R. 2021-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GARY COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH FULCRUM CENTERPOINT, LLC. Sponsored by: AJ Bytnar, Executive Director Redevelopment Commission

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-13**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

AJ Bytnar (Redevelopment Commission Director), Flyn Van Ewijk (Fulcrum Representative), and Tom Yonge (Fulcrum Representative) gave a brief overview of **C.P.R. 2021-13**.

Councilman Lay, Councilman Brewer, Councilman Weatherspoon, President Godwin, AJ Bytnar (Redevelopment Commission Director, Councilman Brown, Mayor Jerome Prince (City of Gary), Dan Vacari (Gary/Chicago International Airport Authority Director) spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-13**.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 2 nays (Caldwell, Godwin). The Chair declared this Council Pending Resolution duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2020-80

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY PROVIDING FOR A HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE TRANSFER/SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES FORMERLY OWNED BY THE GUEA. Sponsored by: AJ Bytnar, Redevelopment Department

Councilman Brewer moved to refer **C.P.O. 2020-80** back to the Planning & Development Committee with a Hearing set for set for November 30, 2021 at 5:00 pm. It was seconded by Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-49

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 8831 TO INCLUDE REQUIREMENTS FOR ARMED SECURITY GUARDS AT CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS BETWEEN DUSK AND DAWN AND REQUIRING 24-HOUR ARMED SECURITY AT OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS WITH A HISTORY OF VIOLENT CRIME. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Councilman Cozey Weatherspoon, 2nd District

Councilman Brewer moved to refer **C.P.O. 2021-77** back to the Public Safety Committee with a Hearing set for December 14, 2021 at 5:30 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Lay, Councilman Brewer, President Godwin, Councilman Williams, and Councilman Weatherspoon spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-77**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-77

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII SECTION 105-432, REGARDING CONTRACTOR'S LICENSES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Deputy Mayor Trent A. McCain, City of Gary

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-77**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Atty. Angela Lockett (Corporation Counsel) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-77**.

Councilman Brewer moved to amend **C.P.O. 2021-77** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call on the amendment showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 1 nay (Caldwell) and 1 abstention (Godwin). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-80

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING PAYMENT FOR MORE THAN ONE POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak L. Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-80**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Atty. Angela Lockett (Corporation Counsel) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-80**.

Councilman Lay, President Godwin and Councilman Brewer spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-80**.

Councilwoman Brown moved to amend **C.P.O. 2021-80** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call on the amendment showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 2 abstentions (Brewer, Godwin). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-81

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FUND 885, THE BUDGETS FOR THE SAFE AND THRIVING COMMUNITIES GRANT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-81**. It was seconded by Councilman Brewer.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-81**.

Councilwoman Brown moved to amend **C.P.O. 2021-81** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilman Brewer.

Roll call on the amendment showed a vote of 7 ayes 0 nays (*Councilman Brown temporarily left the meeting). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 0 nays (*Councilman Brown temporarily left the meeting). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-84

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4921-31 W. 5TH AVE. Petitioner: Robert Drain **Property: 4921-31 W. 5th Avenue Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-84**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilwoman Brown.

Eric Boria (Zoning Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-84**.

Councilman Weatherspoon and Robert Drain (petitioner) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-84**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 nay (Caldwell). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-85

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2768 COLFAX ST. Petitioner: Amalia Tafolla **Property: 2768 Colfax Street, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-85**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Eric Boria (Zoning Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-85**.

Roll call showed a vote of 5 ayes 3 nays (Brown, Caldwell, Godwin). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-87

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN FUND 101-601 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEE BONUSES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-87**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-87**.

Councilwoman Brown moved to amend **C.P.O. 2021-87** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call on the amendment showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-87**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2021-88

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (FUND 176) FOR THE PAYMENT OF 2020 PREMIUM PAY FOR CERTAIN GARY SANITARY DISTRICT EMPLOYEES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-88**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilwoman Caldwell moved to amend **C.P.O. 2021-88** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-88**.

Roll call on the amendment showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-88** as amended. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.R. 2021-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GARY OPPOSING NIPSCO'S 17% GAS RATE ADJUSTMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary

Councilman Brewer moved to refer **C.P.R. 2021-11** back to the Public Safety Committee with a Hearing set for December 14, 2021 at 5:30 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Lay, President Godwin, Councilman Brewer, Councilman Williams, and Councilman Weatherspoon spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-11**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.R. 2021-14

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA APPROVING PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CERTAIN FUND LEDGER BALANCES AND BANK STATEMENTS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-14**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-87**.

Councilman Brewer, President Godwin, and Mileak Harper (City Controller) spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-14**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:

C.P.O. 2021-89

N ORDINANCE APPROVING PAYMENT TO KEITH STONE FOR MORE THAN ONE POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-89** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via hybrid conference) set on November 30, 2021 at 5:30 pm and a Public Hearing (via hybrid conference) set on December 7, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-90

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-90** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via hybrid conference) set on November 30, 2021 at 6:00 pm and a Public Hearing (via hybrid conference) set on December 7, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.R. 2021-15

A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF DIANNE DURHAM. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Councilman Cozey Weatherspoon, 2nd District, Councilman Dwight Williams, 6th District

Councilman Williams moved to Suspend the Rules to pass **C.P.R. 2021-15** on all 3 Readings. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilman Williams moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-15** on all 3 readings. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Williams gave a brief overview of **C.P.R. 2021-15**.

Councilman Williams moved to amend **C.P.R. 2021-15** by adding the Councilmembers as co-sponsors and to change the sponsorship to Councilman Williams name. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilman Lay, President Godwin, Councilwoman Brown, Mayor Jerome Prince and Councilman Williams spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-15**.

Councilman Lay moved to amend by adding Mayor Jerome Prince, along with all Councilmembers, as a sponsor. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this amendment duly passed.

Councilman Williams moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-15** as amended. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brewer.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Resolution duly **PASSED**.

REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, presented the following announcements/updates:

- 1) Congratulations were expressed to the 6 new police officers joining the ranks of the Gary Police Department.
- 2) Mayor Prince attended the signing of the \$1.3 trillion-dollar infrastructure bill in Washington D.C. on Monday, November 15, 2021.

Councilman Lay raised concerns to Mayor Prince regarding a task force being created for the service stations issues and a meeting being set up with the Mayor, Council and NIPSCO as it relates to the 17% increase.

Councilman Brewer announced that the Planning Commission will meet on November 22, 2021 at 4:00 pm. The Lake Sandy Jo project will be discussed and anyone is welcomed to attend.

President Godwin expressed condolences to the family that was tragically killed after being struck by a train on Lake Street on November 16, 2021.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF November 16, 2021 ADJOURNED AT 9:40 PM SO ORDERED.

WILLIAM GODWIN
PRESIDING OFFICER

SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK

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